



I believe the saddest commentary on the state of man is found in the Scripture that says in:

I Cor 2:14 *But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.*

The natural minded or soulish man cannot fathom the things of God. And it is so bad that they are foolishness to him.

Two things he cannot do:

“accept” receive

“understand” come to know

Reason being;

The things of God are spiritual so it takes a spiritual soul to receive and know Him.

Now;

Because of this dilemma within humanity, various outcomes have been created by his natural minded thinking.

We will venture into some of these types of thinking about God or the existence of God in this message.

I will give you 8 erroneous beliefs people hold about God:

1. **Atheism**

An open and positive denial of the existence of God.

This is not mere ignorance but an emphatic denial of God.

The belief:

The material universe is only an accident.

There is no cause for anything, including man’s own existence.

He has no hope in time or eternity.

Some famous atheists:

- Madalyn Murray O’Hair
- Stephen Hawking (smartest man?)
- Sigmund Freud
- Mark Zuckerberg
- Brad Pitt & Angelina Jolie

2. Agnosticism

There is no sufficient ground to either affirm or negate the existence of God.

It is a suspended judgment; an unwillingness to accept the impressions of the mind on certain subjects as dependable or to be convinced by a process of reason.

This person is called "agnostic."

"gnostic" – knowledge, "a" – negative

Without or no knowledge or not knowing.

- Bill Gates
- Johnny Depp
- Larry King
- Bill Maher

Agnosticism is destructive in its effect upon Truth which is gathered by the normal function of our faculties.

Ie.

They don't bother to think at all!

3. Evolution

Theistic evolution – a Creator brought into existence the original materials and then they developed themselves into the present completeness.

Atheistic evolution – no Creator was involved. Matter is eternal and self-developing.

There is no place for God in this system of belief.

Yet, the evolutionist cannot explain the origin of any material-like substance, no matter what shape or form it may take.

For living matter is pure conjecture.

Ie. Unproven.

It is not science so it cannot be used to authenticate the theory of evolution

About 98% of scientists believe in the theory of evolution

4. Materialism

Everything is explained through laws of physical or material substance. This belief denies the reality of the soul.

This leads to the rejection of God as God is Spirit, Jn 4:24.

The scientist is to explain everything by the physical causes which excludes the interference of spiritual causes.

The Materialist misses out that:

Heb 11:1 *Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*

v.3 *By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.*

Combined with:

Gen 1:1 *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
"created" *bara* – bring about, (from nothing)

5. Polytheism

There is more than one God, thereby, disregarding the First Commandment:

Ex 20:1 *I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

v.3 *"You shall have no other gods before Me.*

Originally, man believed in one God. Over time it morphed into the belief in many gods.

Rom 1:21 *For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

Then,

That split off into there is No God!

Two opposing systems of thought!

6. Idealism

Agnosticism admits the possibility of reality, it denies the possibility of knowing that reality.

Ie. Everything is just an idea. (It's all in your head)

7. Pantheism

The belief that God is in everything and everything is in God in nature, matter and spirit.

Led to the belief of Reincarnation or Transmigration of the souls.

The soul, after countless reincarnations, returns to and is absorbed into God.

Buddhism and Brahmanism contend this belief.

Famous Buddhists:

- Steven Seagal
- Tina Turner
- Tiger Woods
- Goldie Hawn
- Herbie Hancock
- Richard Gere
- Orlando Bloom
- David Bowie

8. Deism

God is personal, infinite, holy and Creator of all things but He purposely abandoned His creation that it would be self-sustaining. Deism rejects the Scriptures and that God is still working in His creation.

Man cannot reach God through any means and He can only be known through nature.

He is uninvolved in the affairs of man.

- Thomas Jefferson
- Benjamin Franklin
- James Madison

So,

How did mankind go from worshipping the One, True God to this smorgasbord of beliefs?

I think Romans 1 holds the answer.

Rom 1:20 *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.*

V.21 *For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

v.22 *Professing to be wise, they became fools,*

v.23 *and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.*

v.24 *Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.*

v.25 *For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever.*

Amen.

v.26 *For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,*

v.27 *and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.*

V.28 *And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,*

v.29 *being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips,*

v.30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

v.31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;

v.32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

In closing:

To drift from the knowledge of the One, True God is to set oneself up for complete and utter deception.

Any other belief system will result in the total destruction of the soul throughout all of eternity.

The believe in the One, True God, as it was in the beginning, will result in life everlasting with Him.

It's a choice all people must and will make.